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SIPDIS

SENSITIVE

STATE FOR ISN AND EUG/AGS  
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E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: ENRG KNNP MNUC PARM PREL TRGY IN GM

SUBJECT: GERMANY DISCUSSES U.S. POSITION ON RUSSIA'S SUPPLY  
OF NUCLEAR FUEL FOR TARAPUR AND OTHER NSG-INDIA ISSUES

REF: A. STATE 75597

1B. BERLIN 1084

¶1. (U) This message contains an action request -- please see  
paragraph 5.

¶2. (SBU) Global Affairs officer delivered ref A response to  
ref B German query to Joerg Polster, German MFA International  
Energy and Nuclear Energy Policy Division desk officer, June  
¶3. Polster said the U.S. position on Russia's supply of  
nuclear fuel in April 2007 to India's Tarapur nuclear power  
reactors was helpful. Polster noted that Russia followed the  
Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG) Guidelines by notifying the NSG  
of its decision to supply nuclear fuel to a state (India)  
which lacked International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)  
safeguards. Nevertheless, Polster observed, notification in  
this case did not mean consultation, and Russia seemed to  
have decided regardless of other NSG partners' views.

¶4. (SBU) Polster took the opportunity to discuss the  
U.S.-India civil nuclear cooperation initiative. Germany  
favors bringing India closer to the NSG Guidelines, Polster  
said. He observed, however, that if India fulfills its  
obligations and agrees to IAEA safeguards and signs the  
additional protocol, it would be eligible to receive nuclear  
fuel from suppliers other than the United States. He  
suggested that NSG partners must be prepared to deal with  
each other should India decide to receive fuel from more than  
one supplier.

¶5. (SBU) Polster made a request concerning India's presumed  
acceptance of IAEA safeguards and the additional protocol.  
Once India takes these two steps with the IAEA, the next step  
would be for the NSG to approve them. In preparation for NSG  
approval, Polster assumed the United States would prepare  
some type of document for the NSG's consideration. Polster  
requested that the German Government be consulted before the  
U.S. finalizes its document and presents it to the entire  
NSG.

¶6. (U) Post requests guidance to respond to the German  
request contained in paragraph 4.

TIMKEN JR